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Job Vacancies, Australia

Results of the quarterly Job Vacancies Survey containing estimates of job vacancies classified by industry, sector and state/territory

Reference period February 2020

Released 2/04/2020

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Main features

February key figures

	Feb 2020	Nov 2019 to Feb 2020	Feb 2019 to Feb 2020
	'000	% change	% change
Trend Estimates			
Private sector	201.3	-0.2	-3.7
Public sector	25.2	3.3	16.7
Private and public sectors	226.5	0.2	-1.8

Job vacancies, total and private sector - trend
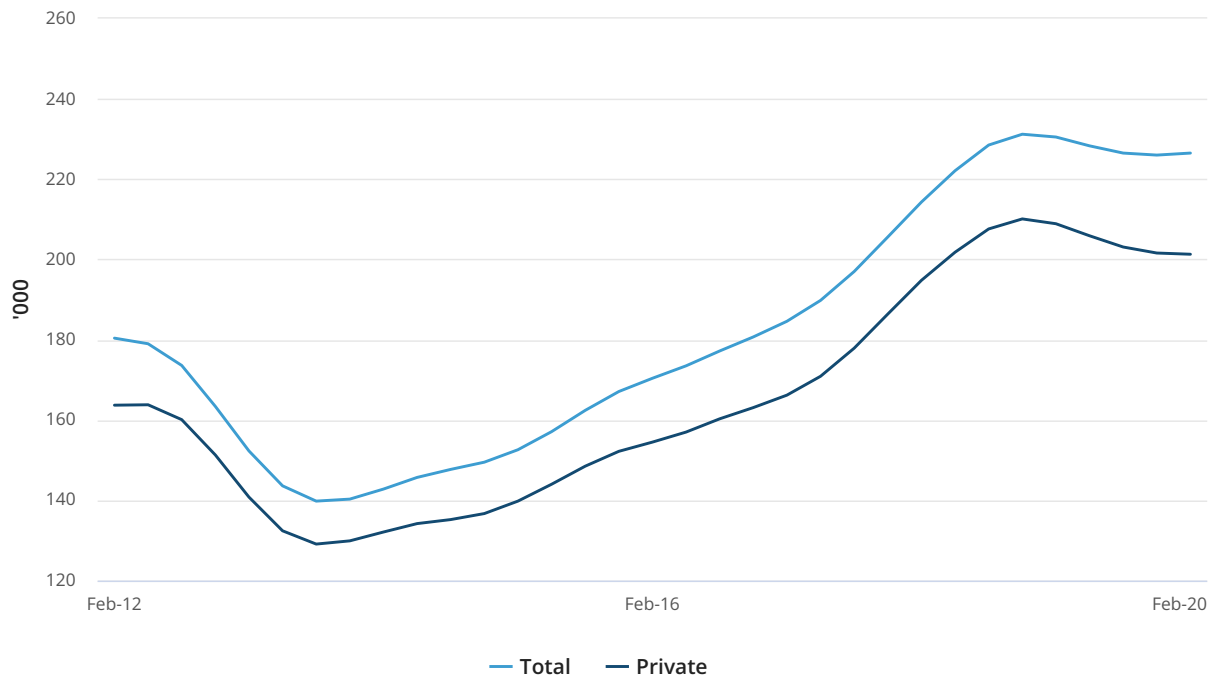
February key points

Trend estimates

- Total job vacancies in February 2020 were 226,500, an increase of 0.2% from November 2019.
- The number of job vacancies in the private sector was 201,300 in February 2020, a decrease of 0.2% from November 2019.
- The number of job vacancies in the public sector was 25,200 in February 2020, an increase of 3.3% from November 2019.

Managing the impact of Coronavirus (COVID-19) on job vacancies statistics

The ABS is currently monitoring for potential impacts from the Coronavirus (COVID-19) on job vacancies statistics and will continue to do so for the period of the pandemic.

Quality assurance of data for the February 2020 quarter did not identify any notable impact

to headline statistics. It is important to note that the reference date for February fell at a point where there was only a relatively low number of confirmed COVID-19 cases within Australia and before it was declared a global pandemic.

The ABS will continue to actively manage the potential risks from COVID-19 to data collection operations for upcoming Job Vacancies surveys, and acknowledges the tremendous support that the Australian community is continuing to provide in supporting high quality and critically important ABS statistics.

Revisions to job vacancies

As part of a recent quality review of the Job Vacancies Survey (JVS), the ABS explored whether it could make any improvements to its estimation and confrontation methods. While this review largely confirmed that the survey methods have already been optimised, it did highlight an improvement for data for the Administrative and support services industry, given the specific vacancy dynamics within this industry (which includes labour hire businesses).

In introducing this methodological improvement, the ABS has also applied some revisions to produce improved estimates for this industry for the period from May 2017 to November 2019. Consequential revisions have also been made to estimates for each state and territory, the private sector and Australia levels.

Job vacancies, Australia, trend
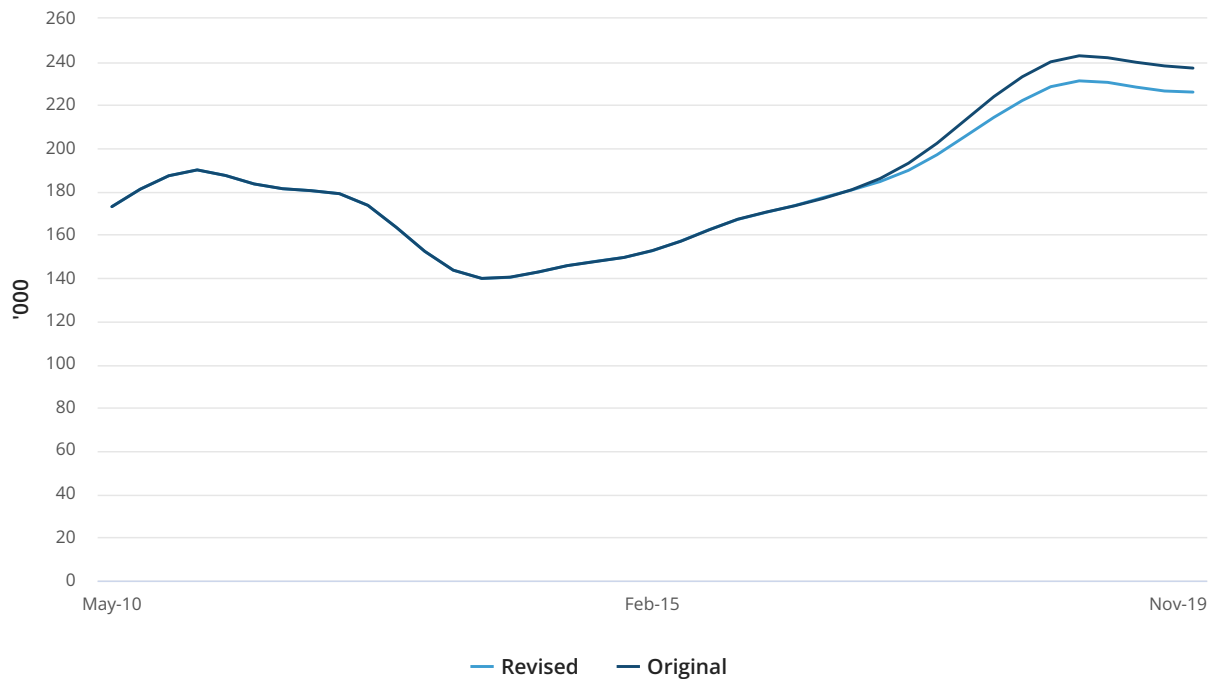
Rounding

Estimates of percentage change shown in this release have been calculated using unrounded estimates, and may be different from, but are more accurate than, movements obtained from calculating percentage change using the rounded estimates presented in the Tables and the datacubes in the Data downloads section.

Tables

1 Job vacancies, states and territories

	Original									Seasonally Adjusted	Trend
	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Australia	Australia	Australia

JOB VACANCIES ('000)

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Australia	Australia	Australia
2018											
November	r83.5	r61.6	r37.7	r10.7	r26.8	r3.6	r3.8	r7.0	r234.7	230.4	231.2
2019											
February	r84.0	r64.1	r36.6	r9.4	r27.5	r3.0	r3.6	r6.6	r234.7	231.9	230.5
May	r77.2	r60.1	r33.2	r11.2	r23.2	r3.3	r4.2	r6.7	r219.1	228.2	228.3
August	r72.8	r61.2	r39.1	r11.3	r26.4	r3.6	r4.3	r7.6	r226.3	224.4	226.5
November	r80.2	r60.1	r39.2	r11.4	r25.7	r3.6	r3.5	r7.7	r231.4	227.0	226.0
2020											
February	79.3	59.7	38.4	11.7	27.6	3.4	2.9	6.6	229.5	226.8	226.5

CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS QUARTER (%)

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Australia	Australia	Australia
2018											
November	4.9	-6.9	9.0	-8.8	3.6	19.0	6.7	4.2	1.5	0.7	1.2
2019											
February	0.6	4.1	-3.1	-12.5	2.5	-17.8	-5.2	-5.0	-	0.7	-0.3
May	-8.1	-6.3	-9.3	19.5	-15.3	10.5	15.7	1.3	-6.7	-1.6	-1.0
August	-5.6	1.8	17.9	1.2	13.6	11.3	3.1	12.2	3.3	-1.7	-0.8
November	10.1	-1.7	0.2	0.4	-2.6	-0.7	-19.5	2.0	2.2	1.2	-0.2
2020											
February	-1.1	-0.8	-2.0	2.7	7.3	-5.7	-17.8	-13.8	-0.8	-0.1	0.2

CHANGE FROM CORRESPONDING QUARTER OF PREVIOUS YEAR (%)

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Australia	Australia	Australia
2018											
February	12.3	15.9	22.2	9.7	19.1	11.8	21.5	-2.6	15.0	14.9	16.1
2019											
February	9.8	9.8	0.7	-10.3	29.4	0.3	1.7	16.3	9.2	9.1	7.6
2020											
February	-5.6	-7.0	4.9	24.6	0.5	15.3	-21.0	0.1	-2.2	-2.2	-1.8

- nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

r revised

2 Job vacancies, private sector - states and territories

	Original									Seasonally Adjusted	Trend
	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Australia	Australia	Australia

JOB VACANCIES ('000)

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Australia	Australia	Australia
2018											
November	r76.9	r55.6	r34.7	r9.2	r25.0	r3.1	r3.1	r5.3	r212.9	208.8	210.1
2019											
February	r77.3	r58.9	r33.8	r7.9	r25.8	r2.4	r3.1	r4.8	r214.1	210.7	208.9
May	r69.6	r54.6	r30.1	r9.6	r21.7	r2.7	r*3.6	r4.8	r196.8	206.0	205.9
August	r65.3	r55.9	r35.3	r9.5	r24.5	r3.0	r3.7	r5.1	r202.3	200.7	203.1
November	r72.2	r54.9	r35.5	r9.5	r23.5	r2.9	r3.0	r5.3	r206.7	202.6	201.6
2020											
February	71.4	53.7	34.9	10.0	25.4	2.9	2.1	4.9	205.1	201.6	201.3

CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS QUARTER (%)

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Australia	Australia	Australia
2018											
November	4.8	-7.6	9.4	-11.4	4.8	27.0	-1.8	0.8	1.2	0.3	1.2
2019											
February	0.5	5.9	-2.6	-14.2	3.4	-20.5	-	-8.7	0.6	0.9	-0.5
May	-10.0	-7.3	-10.8	22.3	-15.9	9.5	15.7	0.4	-8.1	-2.2	-1.4
August	-6.1	2.4	17.2	-1.0	12.5	13.2	0.6	5.0	2.8	-2.6	-1.4
November	10.4	-1.8	0.5	-0.5	-3.9	-3.3	-18.4	3.4	2.2	0.9	-0.7
2020											
February	-1.1	-2.2	-1.8	5.6	7.9	-0.6	-31.1	-6.2	-0.7	-0.5	-0.2

CHANGE FROM CORRESPONDING QUARTER OF PREVIOUS YEAR (%)

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Australia	Australia	Australia
2018											
February	11.5	16.8	25.1	11.2	21.6	8.0	32.1	-5.3	15.8	15.7	17.2
2019											
February	10.3	10.8	0.8	-16.3	30.1	-0.5	2.3	12.5	9.3	9.2	7.3
2020											
February	-7.7	-8.8	3.2	27.2	-1.9	19.2	-34.6	2.3	-4.2	-4.3	-3.7

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

- nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

r revised

3 Job vacancies, public sector - states and territories

	Original									Seasonally Adjusted	Trend
	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Australia	Australia	Australia

JOB VACANCIES ('000)

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Australia	Australia	Australia
2018											
November	6.6	6.0	3.0	1.5	1.8	0.5	0.7	1.7	21.8	21.5	21.2
2019											
February	6.7	5.3	2.8	1.5	1.6	0.5	0.5	1.8	20.6	21.2	21.6
May	7.6	5.5	3.0	1.6	1.5	0.6	0.6	1.9	22.2	22.2	22.4
August	7.5	5.3	3.8	1.8	2.0	0.6	*0.7	2.5	24.0	23.6	23.4
November	8.0	5.2	3.6	1.9	2.2	0.7	0.5	2.5	24.7	24.4	24.4
2020											
February	7.9	6.0	3.5	1.7	2.2	0.5	0.8	1.7	24.4	25.1	25.2

CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS QUARTER (%)

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Australia	Australia	Australia
2018											
November	6.1	-0.1	4.7	10.9	-10.6	-13.6	78.3	16.0	4.3	4.4	1.1
2019											
February	1.4	-12.3	-8.9	-2.3	-10.0	-1.1	-29.6	6.2	-5.7	-1.3	2.0
May	13.8	4.9	9.1	5.2	-6.0	15.4	15.6	3.9	7.9	4.6	3.6
August	-1.2	-4.3	24.2	14.6	30.2	2.2	19.7	30.6	8.0	6.4	4.6
November	7.3	-0.8	-2.9	5.1	14.0	12.6	-25.4	-0.8	2.7	3.1	4.3
2020											
February	-1.0	14.4	-3.6	-12.1	0.3	-27.7	63.0	-30.0	-1.2	3.1	3.3

CHANGE FROM CORRESPONDING QUARTER OF PREVIOUS YEAR (%)

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Australia	Australia	Australia
2018											
February	22.5	7.7	-4.7	-3.0	-8.9	36.1	-19.4	6.9	7.6	7.7	6.7
2019											
February	4.5	0.6	-0.2	45.2	19.7	4.6	-1.8	27.8	7.6	7.8	10.2
2020											
February	19.5	13.9	26.8	11.3	39.9	-3.9	68.3	-5.8	18.3	18.2	16.7

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

4 Job vacancies, industry - original

	2018	2019			2020	
	November	February	May	August	November	February
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
Mining	6.2	5.8	5.6	6.4	6.2	6.5
Manufacturing	11.4	12.2	11.5	11.6	10.9	12.2
Electricity, gas, water and waste services	1.8	1.9	2.0	2.2	1.8	2.1
Construction	17.3	19.3	15.7	14.9	16.6	16.6
Wholesale trade	10.4	9.4	9.3	10.4	11.8	12.6
Retail trade	24.5	20.8	19.0	22.1	24.8	18.9
Accommodation and food services	15.1	16.7	14.0	14.5	14.5	14.7
Transport, postal and warehousing	6.9	6.9	6.6	6.4	7.1	7.5
Information media and telecommunications	2.9	2.7	2.5	2.7	3.3	3.4
Financial and insurance services	12.0	12.4	11.4	12.1	11.0	11.9
Rental, hiring and real estate services	4.5	4.1	3.8	4.1	2.7	3.2
Professional, scientific and technical services	24.8	28.3	28.6	25.0	23.7	26.3
Administrative and support services	r34.6	r33.1	r30.7	r34.2	r34.5	31.2
Public administration and safety	12.0	11.1	11.9	13.2	12.9	13.3
Education and training	6.6	7.4	7.1	6.6	7.3	7.7
Health care and social assistance	29.0	29.4	29.8	27.4	28.0	29.8
Arts and recreation services	3.1	3.2	2.4	3.6	2.8	2.0
Other services	11.6	10.0	7.2	9.0	11.4	9.4

r revised

Inquiries

For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. The ABS Privacy Policy (https://www.abs.gov.au /websitedbs/D3310114.nsf/Home/Privacy?opendocument) outlines how the ABS will handle any personal information that you provide to us.

Data downloads

Table 1. Job vacancies, states and territories ('000)
↓ **Download XLS**
[274.5 KB]

Table 2. Job vacancies, private sector, states and territories ('000)
↓ **Download XLS**
[404.5 KB]

Table 3. Job vacancies, public sector, states and territories ('000)
↓ **Download XLS**
[217.5 KB]

Table 4. Job vacancies, industry, Australia ('000) - original

⤓ **Download** XLS
[143 KB]

Methodology

Job Vacancies, Australia methodology, February 2020